PROJECT NUMBER: 0008
PROJECT TITLE: Computer Applications/General Support
PROJECT LEADER: G. D. Davis
PERIOD COVERED: March 15 - April 19, 1988

Library Palantir/Fulcrum Test

A. **Objective**: To develop a working understanding of the Palantir scanner and the Fulcrum Fultext database; to create a Fultext collection for user testing utilizing data captured through the Palantir scanner.

B. **Results**: A total of 18 user specified files were entered into the system using the Palantir Scanner. Two of these files were unable to be scanned due to smearing of the newspaper print. All the files were created from articles found in newspapers or magazines. Overall, the Palantir did an excellent job of scanning this data in. It did prove to be fairly time consuming though due to the Palantir user being a novice and the data having been derived from newspaper print.

Fulcrum was used to create a fultext database collection. It had no apparent problems with any of the files referenced. The created database and profile were brought to the Library. The necessary environment variables and path names were added to the .logins to access fultext. A demonstration/training session was held with Charity McDonald to introduce her to the basic commands, menus and terminology needed to use Fulcrum.

C. **Conclusions**: The Library's initial reaction to the fultext database seemed very positive. They were particularly impressed with the general flow of the menus and ease of use. It was determined that the Palantir scanner could not be used to enter into the system data that was generated before January of this year. Prior to this time the method of storing data was an unconcernedly cut and paste process that created shadows, lines and severe skewing of the file making it impossible for any scanner to read. However, due to improvements in this method used to store data, the Palantir scanner will be used from this date on to scan data into the system.

D. **Plans**: To remain accessible to the library users as they continue to test the Fulcrum database to answer questions or give support in anyway needed. To continue expanding the current knowledge base about the Fulcrum database and the Palantir scanner. A meeting with Fulcrum is scheduled for the week of May 9th here at CAD. At that time we will have the opportunity to ask questions, tailor screens and develop fields that will generically meet all our user requirements.

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